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expect to get the reply from the Central Government? Then, Sir, Sri Balakrishnan was saying how to improve the position in the State and how to abolish untouchability. An opportunity was given him to show it in action. He married only a few months back. Instead of suggesting to the Government and the Hon. Minister as to how to rectify the defects found in the country why did not the hon. Member follow the methods which he has suggested for others to follow?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Sri Balakrishnan should answer that."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" For the second part of the question the hon. Member Sri Balakrishnan will answer. In regard to the first part of the question I may say that we expect the approval of the Government of India shortly."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have allowed enough time for this question. I will now take up the next question."

Anicut across the supply channel to Karakulam tank.

* 1495 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the ryots of Regunathapuram village in Regunathapuram vattam, Alangudi taluk of Pudukottai Division, Tiruchirappalli district, have petitioned for the construction of an anicut across the supply channel to Karakulam tank:

(*b*) if so, the action taken on their petition; and

(*c*) the extent of lands expected to be irrigated after the construction?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise."

Railway passes for M.L.As. and M.L.Cs.

(Starred questions 1496 and 1497 taken together.)

* 1496 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to provide the Members of the State Legislature with railway passes available throughout the State as in the case of Members of Parliament?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir."

* 1497 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to give Members of the Legislature railway passes for travel within the State;